

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 22-29 and 31-36 are pending in this application. Claims 4-20, 22, 23, 31 and 32 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 24, 29 and 33-36 are rejected. Claims 3 and 25-29 are objected to. Claims 3, 24 and 33-36 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-20, 22-23, 25-29, 31-32 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-20, 22, 23, 31 and 32 are allowed.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 25-29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitations of claim 3 have been added to claim 1. Therefore claim 1 and dependant claim 2 are both allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 24, 29, 33, 34 and 36 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruber et al. in view of Beigi et al.

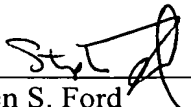
Claim 35 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gruber et al. in view of Beigi et al. and further in view of Jain.

The rejections are respectfully traversed. However to further the case to allowance, the limitations of allowable claim 3 have been added to claim 1 and claims 24, 33, 34 and 36 have been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2, 4-20, 22-23, 25-29, 31-32 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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